

## Georgia Regional Transportation Authority



Steven L. Stancil Executive Director November 15, 2005 2005 NOV 16 AM 11: 06
OFFICE OF THE STATE
INSPECTOR GENERAL

James E. Sehorn
State Inspector General
Office of the State Inspector General
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SW
1102 West Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Inspector General Sehorn:

This letter is a follow-up to your report dated June 27, 2005, in the matter of Shaun Green. The report requested a written response to the recommendations.

At the outset I want to thank you for the prompt and thorough investigation of the matter outlined above, which was conducted at the request of GRTA in order to avoid any appearance of impropriety. GRTA takes its role seriously and independent investigations are a welcomed necessity to ensure public confidence. We were pleased, but not surprised, with the results of the investigation which found no wrongdoing by Mr. Green. As for the three administrative recommendations, GRTA agrees with each and has or will see that they are implemented.

- 1. More clearly defining the mission of the Green Light Team for enhanced public understanding. GRTA will work with the Green Light Team to have a formal statement of its role as a facilitator for issues related to the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge completion and Atlantic Station. The Green Light Team now also offers the public the opportunity to attend and make presentations at Green Light Team meetings.
- 2. Evaluation and review of employee roles in order to ensure no appearances of conflict. GRTA has discussed the matter with its managers. As a result, Mr. Green was removed from public involvement in the Green Light Team. His role with Atlantic Station is now very limited. For example, he has helped develop directional signs for the shuttle project. As a further result of discussions, GRTA decided to avoid another potential conflict by not having Mr. Green participate in the regulatory review of a development located near Atlantic Station. Mr. Green is one of the engineers that are required to review large developments for GRTA in connection with its DRI regulation (Developments of Regional Impact). Although Mr. Green has unique knowledge which would have been helpful, GRTA felt it was better to reassign the DRI in answering the question posed in your recommendation: "Could the proposed activity withstand public scrutiny?" GRTA management will continue be reminded to ask that question as it evaluates job responsibilities.

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3. Employee education. During the course of the investigation, GRTA devoted a portion of one of the staff meetings to ethics and conflicts. GRTA will promote the topic at least annually in its meetings. The ethics policy is also part of the employee manual.

I hope this letter is responsive to your request and you if you have additional questions please call.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Stancil

Executive Director